

Office of the People's Counsel (DJ0)

The mission of the Office of the People's Counsel (OPC) is to be the advocate for utility consumers of natural gas, electric and telephone services in the District of Columbia before District and federal decision-making bodies.

Agency Director	Elizabeth A. Noel
Proposed Operating Budget (\$ in thousands)	\$3,020

Fast Facts

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed FY 2001 operating budget is \$3,020,021, an increase of \$196,804 over the FY 2000 budget. There are 28 full-time equivalents (FTEs) supported by this budget. During FY 2000, the agency enhanced its core competency in the areas of consumer protection, community education and outreach, and universal service issues. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY 2000, increased the meetings attended in the community and those hosted by OPC. |
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FY 2001 Proposed Budget by Control Center

The basic unit of budgetary and financial control in the District's financial management system is a control center. The Office of the People's Counsel has one control center that serves as the major component of the agency's budget.

FY 2001 Proposed Budget by Control Center

(Dollars in Thousands)

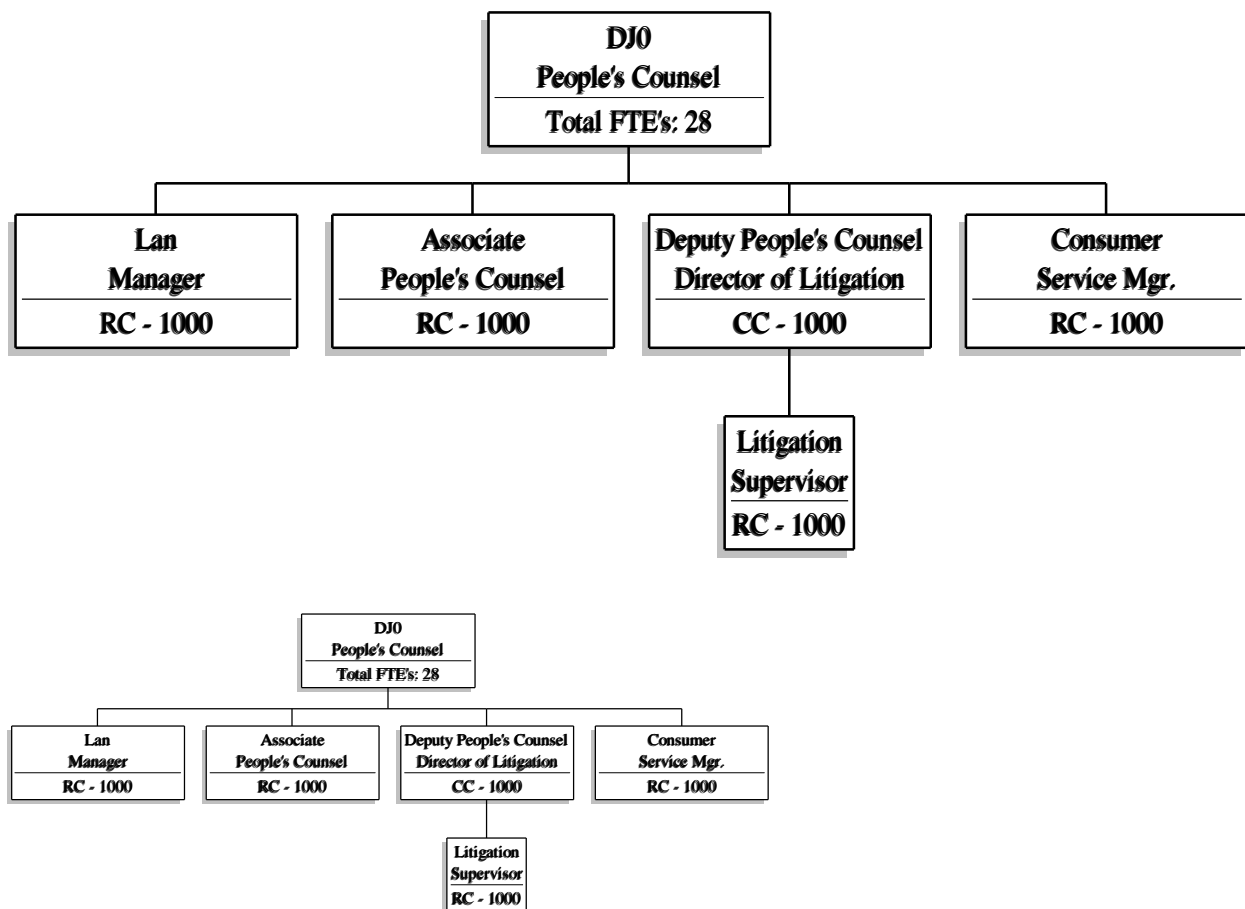
Office of the People's Counsel

Control Center	Proposed FY 2001 Budget
0010 ADVOCATE FOR UTILITY CONSUMERS	3,020
DJ0 Office of the People's Counsel	3,020

Agency Overview and Organization

The Office achieves its mission by advocating for utility consumers of natural gas, electric, and telephone services in the District. The agency is party to all utility-related proceedings before the Public Service Commission (PSC) and represents the interests of District ratepayers before federal regulatory agencies and commissions with the right to appeal PSC decisions directly to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

The Office is also empowered to represent no-fault automobile insurance consumers if the Commissioner of Insurance holds rate hearings. Other duties of the Office of the People's Counsel include: assisting individual consumers in disputes with utility companies about billings and services; providing technical assistance and consumer education to the Consumer Utility Board and other community advocacy groups; and participating in proceedings regarding the installation and removal of public pay telephones.



FY 2001 Proposed Operating Budget

The Office of the People's Counsel's Operating Budget is composed of two categories: (1) Personal Services (PS), and (2) Nonpersonal Services (NPS).

Within the PS budget category are several object classes of expenditure such as regular pay, other pay, additional gross pay, and fringe benefits. Within the NPS budget category are several object classes of expenditure such as supplies and materials, utilities, communications, rent, other services and charges, contractual services, subsidies and transfers, equipment and equipment rental.

Authorized spending levels present the dollars and related full-time equivalents (FTE) by revenue type. Revenue types include: Local (tax and non-tax revenue not earmarked for a particular purpose); Federal (revenue provided by the federal government to support federally established programs or grants for a particular purpose); Private and Other (charitable contributions and fees from fines, etc.); and Intra-District (payments for services provided by one District agency for another District agency).

FY 2001 Proposed Operating Budget

(Dollars in Thousands)

Office of the People's Counsel

Object Class	FY 1999 Unaudited		Budget FY 2000		Proposed FY 2001		Variance	
Regular Pay -Cont. Full Time	1,207		1,428		1,599		171	
Additional Gross Pay	11		0		0		0	
Fringe Benefits	186		233		259		26	
Subtotal for: Personal Services (PS)	1,404		1,661		1,858		197	
Supplies and Materials	38		33		33		0	
Utilities	0		1		1		0	
Telephone, Telegraph, Telegram	41		31		31		0	
Rentals - Land and Structures	579		595		595		0	
Other Services and Charges	215		374		374		0	
Contractual Services - Other	-35		0		0		0	
Equipment and Equipment Rental	112		128		128		0	
Subtotal for: Nonpersonal Services (NPS)	950		1,162		1,162		0	
Total Expenditures:	2,354		2,823		3,020		197	
Authorized Spending Levels by Revenue Type:								
	FTEs	Dollars	FTEs	Dollars	FTEs	Dollars	FTEs	Dollars
Other	22	2,354	28	2,823	28	3,020	0	197
Total:	22	2,354	28	2,823	28	3,020	0	197

Agency Funding Summary

The proposed FY 2001 operating budget *for all funding sources* is \$3,020,021, an increase of \$196,804 or 7.0 percent, over FY 2000 approved budget. The Office of the People's Counsel receives funding from other revenue sources. There are 28 FTEs supported by this agency.

- **Other.** The proposed *other* revenue budget is \$3,020,021, an increase of \$196,804 over the FY 2000 budget. The entire increase is in personal services. There are 28 FTEs supported by this source.

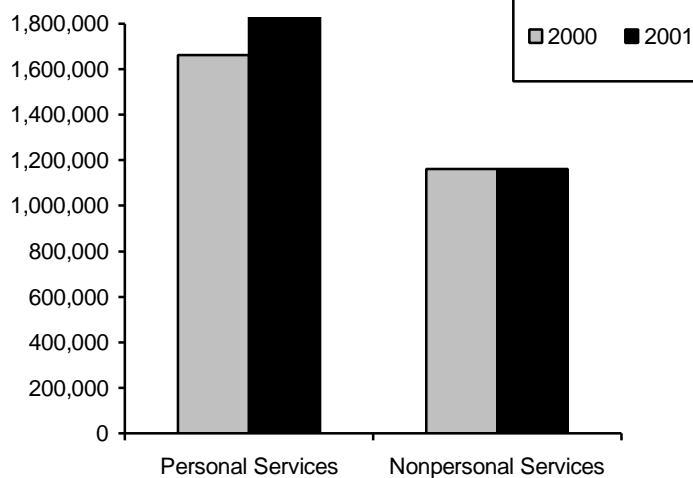
The change in personal services is comprised of:

- \$32,449 for step increases in FY 2001.
- (\$96,856) decrease to account for adjustments related to the development of the personal services baseline budget.
- \$261,211 increase for other adjustments (including Attorney Retention Allowance 15% pay increase.)

Figure 1

FY 2001 Proposed Budget Includes an Increase for PS

Personal Services increased by 11.8 percent, from \$1.6 million in FY 2000 to \$1.8 million, in FY 2001.



Occupational Classification Codes

Occupational Classification Codes (OCC) are used by federal agencies like the Bureau of Labor and Census Bureau, as a way of classifying workers into eight occupational major categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data. The Office of the People's Counsel workforce is divided among four occupational classification codes.

Agency FTEs by Occupational Classification Code

OC Code	FTEs in FY 2001
Official /Administrative	4
Professional	15
Technical	6
Protective Services	0
Paraprofessional	0
Office/Clerical	3
Skill Craft Worker	0
Service Maintenance	0
Total	28

FTE Analysis

Agency FTEs by Occupational Classification Code

The Office of the People's Counsel is a service agency. Of the total FTEs, 52 percent are Professional.

